

SECRET

C
O
P
Y

19 November 1944.

Dear General Letson,

Thank you very much for your letter of November 14th outlining the situation in regard to Japanese linguists in Canada.

We should welcome the detail at once of the three Canadian officers and three non-commissioned officers who are immediately available for assignment, provided they will be retained on this detail at least until the end of next September. If this is satisfactory, it is requested that they attend the next MIS Far East Intelligence Course which commences in Washington on November 27th. This course is considered very desirable to orient intelligence personnel who will be on duty with the Pacific Military Intelligence Research Section.

It was my understanding that you concurred in the view that it would not be in the interests of the overall war effort to utilize Japanese linguists from Canada unless they remained on duty with the Pacific MIRS for a sufficient period to insure that they received the training and experience essential to Japanese document exploitation and that they would make a contribution to the output of the MIRS sufficient to warrant the time and effort required for their training.

It is suggested that for the present a decision regarding the Canadian linguistic personnel expected to graduate in March and October of next year be held in abeyance pending our experience with the first group.

For planning purposes it is requested that you advise me promptly if the above arrangements are satisfactory and if the first group will be present to begin the orientation course on November 27th.

Sincerely,

CLAYTON BISSELL
Major General
A.C. of S., G-2

Major General H.F.G. Letson
Canadian Joint Staff
2222 S Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C.

SECRET